

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

2430 E Street, N. W.  
Washington 25, D. C.LDN No. 119

25 June 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Distribution List

SUBJECT: Survey of Foreign Institute Files, LDN No. 119

1. A recent survey was conducted, at the request of an Ad Hoc CIA Committee on Foreign Institute Files, to determine the extent of coverage, duplication and utilization made of the foreign institute files maintained by components of the overt Offices in CIA.

2. The findings are stated hereunder. Moreover, it was concluded that all files examined are of current and potential use to the intelligence community and are available to members of the IAC Agencies. Upon request to Chief, Liaison Division, OCR/CIA, interested persons may arrange for briefings concerning any or all of the files. In submitting requests, reference should be made to LDN No. 119 with indication as to the specific file(s) in which interested. The ensuing paragraphs briefly describe the findings of the survey team as they pertain to each of the offices visited; a copy of any of these detailed findings may also be requested through the same channel.

3. General Findings - Files dealing with some aspect of foreign institutes 1/ are currently being maintained by components of CIA. They are organized or cross-referenced alphabetically by name of institute; four (4) are limited to the USSR, four (4) include all or part of the Sovbloc, and one (1) has world-wide coverage; sources of information include bibliographic and biographic data, foreign language publications, data from external research projects and intelligence information documents.

4. Brief Files Descriptiona. File No. 1 (Scientific and Technical Branch, FDD/OD)

A 5x8 card file created in mid-1955, is maintained for each identified USSR scientific and related institution, including laboratories and university chairs. At present, cards have been established for about 7-8,000 institutes. The data are taken from untranslated Soviet scientific articles such as periodicals, newspapers, books, monographs, honor awards and awards of advanced degrees. This collection provides a tool to the researcher to locate untranslated information in this field.

b. File No. 2 (Fundamental Sciences Area, OSI)

A file on Russian scientists and their relation to Soviet scientific institutes and the Soviet Academy of Sciences is maintained. It consists of 2 card safes of 3x5 card references filed alphabetically by person within each institute or laboratory in each government department. There is no cross referencing. Open literature and CIA reports are the primary sources. It serves as the basis for publications on the Academy of Sciences.

c. File No. 3 (Biological and Agricultural Branch, Fundamental Sciences Area, OSI)

About 43,000 references of which 55-65% refer to institutes, comprise a bibliographic collection of cards obtained through an external research project started in 1950 and sponsored by

1/ Foreign institutes, in this report, refers to foreign national associations and organizations which are of interest to economic and scientific research areas in the Agency; this does not include international organizations.

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this Agency at the United States Department of Agriculture. The coverage includes most U. S. Department of Agriculture Library journal and book accessions of Sovbloc scientific, biological and agricultural literature, as well as pertinent abstracts from eleven abstract journals. These cards contain the title, author, name of institute and title of the journal and are filed alphabetically. Information on institutes was not included until 1953.

d. File No. 4 (Technical Support Section, Technical Services Branch, Electronics Division, OSI)

This unit maintains about 500 file folders on Soviet East German and European Bloc institutes containing material on people, places, and activities or subjects. The following indexes are maintained: (1) an alphabetic list of all institutes known to be doing research in electronics; (2) a subject index; (3) a geographic listing of institutes by cities; and, (4) a cross reference file to individuals associated with institutes (recently started). For the balance of the world, including China, about 30 country folders have been established in which data are filed chronologically by organization. All of the above files are based primarily on the day-by-day flow of intelligence information coming into the unit.

e. File No. 5 (Chemistry Branch, Fundamental Sciences Area, OSI)

Since 1951 this Branch has maintained files of abstracts pertaining to chemistry from classified intelligence documents and open literature, to serve the needs of the immediate office. These abstracts are printed on the CIA Library mat routing card and are thus retrievable through the Intellofax system. Multiple copies of these abstract cards are filed alphabetically by subject, personality and institute or related installation. Of a total of 60,000 references, 12,000 deal with institutes.

f. File No. 6 (Geography Division, Geographic Research, ORR)

This Division maintains a collection of about 1,000 5x8 cards on Russian institutes and universities as well as about 13,000 cross reference cards to the subject matter covered in the institute collection. These cards were created on an external research contract with the Ohio University Research Foundation which was terminated in 1954. Articles on the earth science of geodesy, astronomy, photogrammetry, gravimetry and cartography found in Sovbloc publications of the Library of Congress, Perkins Observatory, New York Public Library and the libraries at Harvard, Stanford and University of California at Los Angeles were exploited. A master list of sources examined is available in an alphabetized file of journal, serial publications and monograph titles.

g. File No. 7 (Biographic Register, OCR)

Three card cabinets containing bibliographic 5x8 cards of Russian scientific and research publications are maintained. They include the author's name, title of the article, sometimes an abstract and the name of the institute with which the author is associated. The cards are filed by geographic area by author. Duplicates are filed by the name of the institute. Ninety-eight percent of these "institute cards" are received from three sources:

Library of Congress: "Monthly List of Russian Accessions." They have been filed since 1953.

Air Force: An external clipping service contract produces reference to abstract journals. Period covered: 1937 to date.

Foreign Documents Division, OO: Bibliographic cards from open source literature, showing the author, title,

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source, institute and an abstract of the article.  
Period covered: 1947 - 1955.

The Register also maintains: (1) a filing cabinet of folders on institutes containing selected intelligence documents received through normal dissemination channels. The folders are filed by organization within Ministries, Academy, etc. (2) An IBM record of personalities, which may be searched mechanically to locate and list the names of any persons holding a position in an institute.

h. File No. 8 (Industrial Register, OCR)

Since 1948, this facility has indexed and maintained world-wide all-source data on foreign technical, scientific, and industrial establishments and related facilities. Research and development activities are indexed if they relate to a plant, institute, university or other facility. Dossiers are maintained on about 2,500 institutes and related research facilities in the USSR, Bulgaria, Albania, Hungary, Rumania and Yugoslavia. Data on research conducted in industrial installations are also maintained in some 2,500 dossiers. Pertinent data concerning specific product research in selected countries can be retrieved by IBM techniques.

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Notes:

1. Copies distributed externally show File No. 1, 2, etc., only. They do not show component of CIA having the related file.
2. Interested CIA persons should deal direct with the office concerned, if not, via LD/CR.